

array[i] = maximum of array[i] and array[i - 1] for each side of the crease,
producing two arrays.

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~~58~~ 60. The method of claim ²⁰~~59~~ further comprising:

B6 assigning a quality to each area of the page with the quality being equal to the width of the crease found or an invalid crease indicator if the area/crease fails to qualify as a crease

if there are less than $(NSLICES/2)+1$ valid slices, or the width is below a minimum crease width, or if the majority of centerpoints used to construct the average centerpoint are not within a constant horizontal distance of one another or if the vector of intensities appears concave.

REMARKS

Claims 40-52 are pending in the application. Claims 40-48 and 52 have been allowed, and claims 49-51 stand rejected. The specification has been amended to include a reference to claim priority of the earlier application. Claims 40 and 47 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis and to further clarify the claim. As amended, claims 40 and 47 remain patentable over the prior art.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 49-51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite. The objectionable language in claim 49 has been cured by clarifying in the claim preamble that the crease divides the image into an inside that includes the center of the image and an outside that does not contain the center of the image, and by modifying the claim element to state: "set all pixels to the outside of a center portion of the crease to a dominant background color." The objectionable language in claim 50 has also been changed to "set all pixels within a selected threshold distance...." Thus, independent claim 49 and dependent claims 50 and 51 now satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112 and are in condition for allowance.

The New Claims

New method claims 53-60 have been added to claim additional features of applicants' invention as embodied in a method. Independent claim 53 is a method claim mirroring the language of computer program product claim 40. Accordingly, claim 53 is allowable over the prior art for the same reasons as claim 40. Dependent claims 54-60 are similar in language to claims 41-47, and are allowable for the same reasons.


Conclusion

Applicant hereby petitions for a one month extension of time. Enclosed is a check for \$110.00 to cover the fee for the extension of time. Applicant believes that no further extension of time is required; however, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that the applicants have inadvertently overlooked the need

for a further additional extension of time. If any additional fees are required for the timely consideration of this application, please charge deposit account number 19-4972.

It is submitted that all the claim rejections have been addressed and that all of the pending claims are now in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and issuance of a notice of allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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